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St. Paul Mayor-elect Melvin Carter will be sworn in Tuesday at Central High School — his alma mater — and several major issues are awaiting his administration.

Welcome to the hot seat

Here are 10 issues facing new mayor upon his Tuesday inauguration

By Frederick Melo
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Before an audience of hundreds, St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter will be sworn into office Tuesday at Central High School, his alma mater. And then the real work begins.

As the baton of leadership passes from outgoing St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman to Carter — the city's first black mayor and at 38 years old one of its youngest — a series of hot-button issues will be passed along with it. Here's a look at 10 of the dicest:

PAID SICK LEAVE AND A $15 MINIMUM WAGE

With wage growth stagnant and labor protections increasingly uncertain in a contract economy, workers have all but given up looking to Washington, D.C. for answers. Instead of state or federal lawmakers, they've turned to local government to implement a paid sick leave mandate, which rolls out for small businesses in St. Paul in January.

Discussion about a possible phased-in implementation of a $15 minimum wage — a proposal Carter repeatedly supported during his campaign — is also picking up steam in the capital city. The nonpartisan Citizens League is preparing a report on how wage increases would impact city businesses.

JOB GROWTH

Unlike Minneapolis, St. Paul has struggled to grow its job base. Employers such as Cray

QUESTIONS FOR CARTER, 3A

Here's to you ... and you ... and you ... and you

JOHN AUTEY / PIONEER PRESS

Vikings receiver Stefon Diggs celebrates a big gain with fans at U.S. Bank Stadium during Minnesota's 23-10 win over the Bears in their regular-season finale Sunday. The Vikings clinched the NFC's No. 2 seed and a first-round bye with their 13-3 record. They will enter the playoffs having won 11 of their past 12 games. More in Sports, Section B

Ramsey County sheriff's office begins Falcon Heights watch

Agency takes over policing from St. Anthony department

By Tad Vezner and Mara H. Gottfried
Pioneer Press

In the early-morning hours after the ball drops on New Year's Eve, Falcon Heights will officially have a new law enforcement agency patrolling its streets.

The Ramsey County sheriff's office will take over the public safety contract for the city on Monday, a change precipitated by the fatal shooting of motorist Philando Castile during a July 2016 traffic stop in Falcon Heights. Castile was shot by an officer from St. Anthony, which was contracted by Falcon Heights to provide policing services.

"We want to rewrite the script of the community's relationship with law enforcement … and I know my folks can," Ramsey County Sheriff Jack Serier said of the new arrangement.

And after two packed community meetings — one at City Hall and another at a large, racially diverse apartment complex — even some of the city's most leery

FALCON HEIGHTS POLICING, 3A

Trump: 'We're just getting started'

President highlights first-year triumphs in New Year's video

By Catherine Lucey
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — President Donald Trump capped 2017 on Sunday with a video self-tribute touching on what he sees as the high points of his achievements and rhetoric from his first year in office. He gave a plug to American exceptionalism, too.

In the video running 3½ minutes, scenes of Trump with military personnel, Border Patrol agents and other world leaders are set to a stirring soundtrack as he declares of his country: "We gave birth to the modern world and we will shape tomorrow's world with the strength and skill of American hands."

Trump cited his success in placing a new justice on the Supreme Court, his efforts to cut regulations and his big win on overhauling taxes, which he falsely described as the "largest tax cut in the history of our country."

TRUMP'S MESSAGE, 5A

INSIDE

Page 5A: Kim Jong Un says North Korea completed its nuclear force in 2017.

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